

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 15, 16, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,961,880 (Frankowsky) in view of United States Patent Publication 2003/0237061 (Miller), and rejected claims 17- 20 and 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frankowsky in view of Miller and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,661,719 (Shih et al.) in view of United States Patent No. 6,999,357 (Tanishima et al.).

Claims 15 and 21 are independent. Claim 15 has been amended (claim 21 has been similarly amended) such that it now specifically claims that the step of adding access to redundant memory which is not required for the repair comprises faking defects to remap good elements with redundant elements.

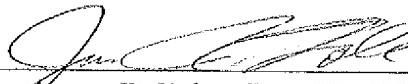
Applicant respectfully submits that this is neither disclosed or suggested by the prior art. While the Examiner asserts that Tanishima et al. discloses faking defects to remap good elements with redundant elements, this is not the case. Tanishima et al. discloses replacing a failed memory cell array with a redundant memory cell array (see col. 6, line 33; and col. 8, line 4 (“without writing of the failed portion data”)). Tanishima et al. does not disclose faking defects.

Applicant respectfully submits that none of the references, whether alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the present application be passed to issuance.

Should the present claims not be deemed adequate to effectively define the patentable subject matter, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney of record to discuss the claims in an effort to reach an agreement toward allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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